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Smallpox in Butte, Mont., and Spokane, Wash.

TACOMA, WASH., February 7, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report smallpox at Spokane, Wash., also Butte, Mont. At Spokane there are over 100 cases and at Butte there are 150 cases. There seems to be a difference of opinion among the physicians at both places, also lack of quarantine regulations. There is 1 case of smallpox in this county which came from Spokane, Wash. (Pierce), and is quarantined about 8 miles from city limits. I inclose you herewith newspaper clippings which, in my opinion, are reliable. No cases in this city.

Respectfully,

F. J. SCHUG,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Smallpox in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana.

SEATTLE, WASH., February 9, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that smallpox is still prevalent in the towns of eastern Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. Spokane had 117 cases during the month of January. There have been a large number of cases among the Indians on the Colville Reservation. I am informed that the British Columbia board of health is enforcing a strict quarantine against the infected towns and cities of Washington.

Respectfully,

JAS. B. EAGLESON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Influenza in Georgetown, S. C.

GEORGETOWN, S. C., February 17, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you of the outbreak of influenza (la grippe) in this city and its vicinity within the past week, within which time I have myself attended 25 or more cases. The disease appears to be not of a severe type. There appears to be a subsidence of chicken pox, and an increase in the number of cases of whooping cough and of measles.

Respectfully,

C. WILLIAMS BAILEY,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Charge.

Report on smallpox situation in Martinsville, Va., and Greensboro and Winston, N. C.

WILMINGTON, N. C., February 11, 1900.

SIR: In obedience to your telegraphic instructions of February 7, 1900, to proceed to Martinsville, Va., for the purpose of diagnosing a supposed case of smallpox, I have the honor to report that I left Wilmington the next morning. Owing to lack of train connections, I had to delay several hours in Greensboro and spend the night at Winston, N. C. I arrived at Martinsville at 10.30 on the morning of February 9, and was met at the depot by Dr. Lee, the city health officer, who gave me the following information:

A young white man, by name Shelton, whose parents reside in Martinsville, arrived at Martinsville on February 3, 1900, after an absence of three weeks, which had been spent in extensive wanderings in Virginia and West Virginia. The young man was sick on arrival, and stated that he had a chill on February 1, and other symptoms of smallpox. Dr. Lee saw him for the first time on the night of February 4,

when he found the patient with an eruption that had broken out that day. Dr. Lee diagnosed the case as mild smallpox and on the following morning removed him to an isolated house beyond the city limits, and it was here that I saw him. The patient had smallpox in a mild form, the disease having been much modified by a vaccination that had been made several years ago. He was in the fifth day of the eruption, which was typical of modified smallpox. The eruption was rapidly disappearing, there being only a few small pustules on face and chest, and might have been mistaken for acne on superficial examination. A number of people were exposed to the case before the appearance of the eruption. I advised that they be vaccinated, and kept under observation.

At the request of the mayor, I addressed a mass meeting of the citizens, and detailed the situation and gave them the usual advice. I also wrote the clerk of the council, at his request, a statement of the conditions, as I found them, for publication.

I was gratified to find, on my arrival at Martinsville, that the Bureau had already supplied the authorities with copies of the Service précis and plans of organization for the suppression of smallpox. I trust that this practice will continue, as these pamphlets are of great service and enable the authorities to commence systematic work at once. I left Martinsville on the afternoon of the 9th instant, returning via Danville, Va., where I stopped between trains. I was informed that there had been no smallpox in Danville since the outbreak there last summer, when it was quickly suppressed. I heard numerous expressions of gratitude to the Service for the assistance rendered at that time. I arrived at Greensboro, N. C., the same evening, and had to remain over until the following afternoon on account of lack of train connections. The situation in Greensboro is steadily improving. Three new cases had just made their appearance among quarantined suspects, but none had appeared in the city. The authorities seem to have the situation well in hand, and the epidemic will doubtless soon be a thing of the past.

At Winston I was informed that no new cases had appeared, and that the case I saw at my former visit on January 30, 1900, was recovering. I learned that vaccination had been proceeding in the city, but that probably one-third of the population was not vaccinated, owing to the large number of vaccination exemptions given by the local physicians. The local authorities say that they are much hampered in their vaccination work by these exemptions. There are a number of tobacco factories in Winston, and if smallpox breaks out among the unvaccinated employees, it is liable to spread rapidly. I rejoined my station on February 10, 1900.

Respectfully,

C. P. WERTENBAKER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

REPORTS FROM THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Laredo, Tex., February 9, 1900.—I have the honor to submit the following report for week ended February 3, 1900: Passengers on Mexican National Railroad inspected and passed, 251; immigrants inspected and passed, 7; vaccinated immigrants and passengers, 18; refused entry of passengers on January 31, 33. Of those refused entry all have entered except 8, which are still held in detention at a camp near Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. Report written February 3 explains in full.

Respectfully,

H. J. HAMILTON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.